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Multiple job-holders

The number and prevalence of people working more than one job, their demographic and employment characteristics and working arrangements.

Reference period December 2023

Released 8/03/2024

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Key statistics

For December 2023:

- There were 970,700 multiple job-holders (6.7% of employed people)
- 7.5% of employed women were multiple job-holders, compared to 6.0% of employed men
- Workers aged 20-24 years old were most likely to be working multiple jobs (8.4%)
- People who were a Community and personal service worker in their main job were most likely to be a multiple job-holder (10.3%).

Sources of multiple job-holder data

This multi-source release, published alongside the quarterly Labour Account, supports headline estimates in the Labour Account by providing additional detail on the characteristics of multiple job-holders.

This release brings together data from the following ABS sources on multiple job-holders:

- [Labour Account, December quarter 2023 \(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/dec-2023\)](#) – headline estimates of the level and rate of multiple job-holding, by industry
- [Labour Force, December 2023 \(https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/)

[labour-force-australia/dec-2023](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year)) – detailed socio-demographic and employment characteristics of multiple job-holders

- [Jobs in Australia, 2020-21 \(https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year) – selected characteristics of multiple job-holders, based on personal income tax data available from the Linked Employer-Employee Dataset (LEED)

Data impacts and changes

Revisions this quarter

Data in the Multiple job-holders release has been revised from previously published estimates. These include revisions to:

- Labour Account data attributed to revisions to quarterly source data;
- Labour Force Survey (LFS) data from July 2016 to reflect the latest estimated resident population (ERP) based on the 2021 Census (final rebased ERP). This is a regular 5-yearly rebasing process which follows each Census, and ensures the Labour Force estimates are benchmarked to the most recent population information. Further information can be found in the November 2023 release of the Labour Force Survey under [Major Rebenchmarking of Labour Force Estimates \(https://www.abs.gov.au/articles/major-rebenchmarking-labour-force-estimates\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/articles/major-rebenchmarking-labour-force-estimates); and
- Jobs in Australia data from 2016-17 to 2019-20 due to reprocessing of the Linked Employer Employee Dataset, and an update to the geography classification. Further information can be found at [Jobs in Australia, 2020-21 financial year \(https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year).

Multiple job-holding over time

In December 2023, there were 970,700 multiple job-holders, compared to 13.4 million single job-holders. This was 1.4% from September 2023 when there were 957,100 multiple job-holders.

Between 1994 and 2019, the multiple job-holding rate remained between 5.0% and 6.0%. However, following a large decline at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in June 2020, it has steadily risen and remained at a high of around 6.6% to 6.7% between December 2022 to December 2023.

Multiple job-holding rate and levels



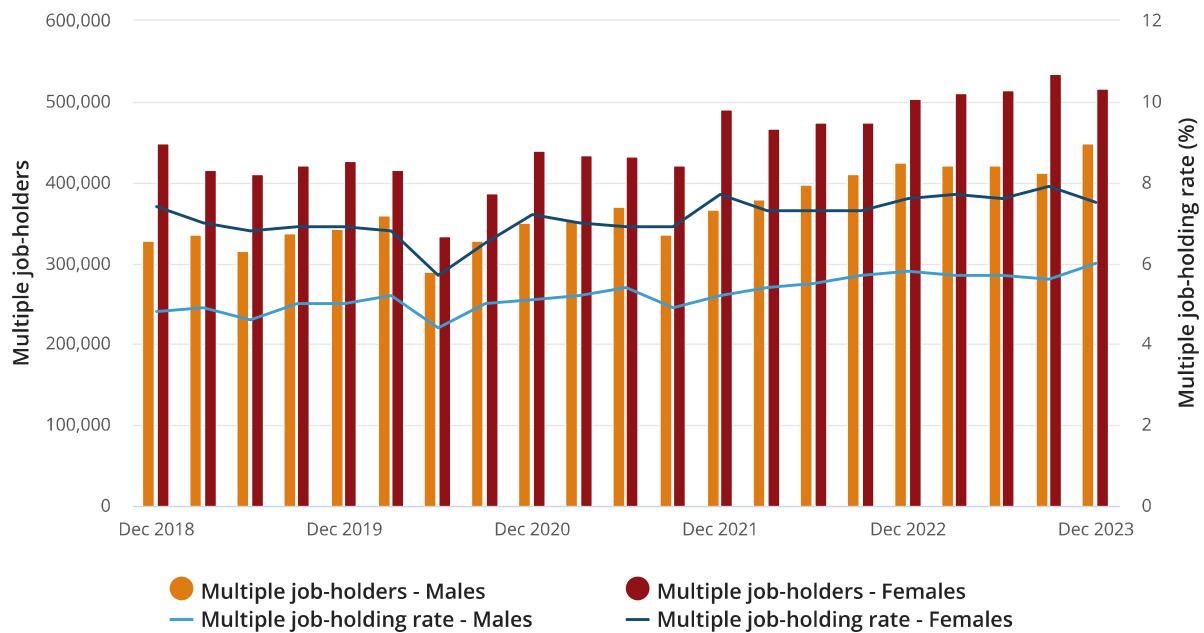
Source: [Labour Account Australia \(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/dec-2023\)](#) (seasonally adjusted)

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Sex

In December 2023, the rate of multiple job-holding was higher for women (7.5% compared with 6.0% for men). Over the past five years, on average, the multiple job-holding rate amongst women has been around 1.9 percentage points higher than men.

Multiple job-holding rate and levels by sex



Note: The sum of males and females does not equal the headline estimates of multiple job-holders from the Labour Account as the number of male and female multiple job-holders is sourced directly from the Labour Force Survey. The Labour Account includes adjustments to account for populations which are out of scope for the Labour Force Survey, namely child workers, short-term non-residents and defence force personnel.

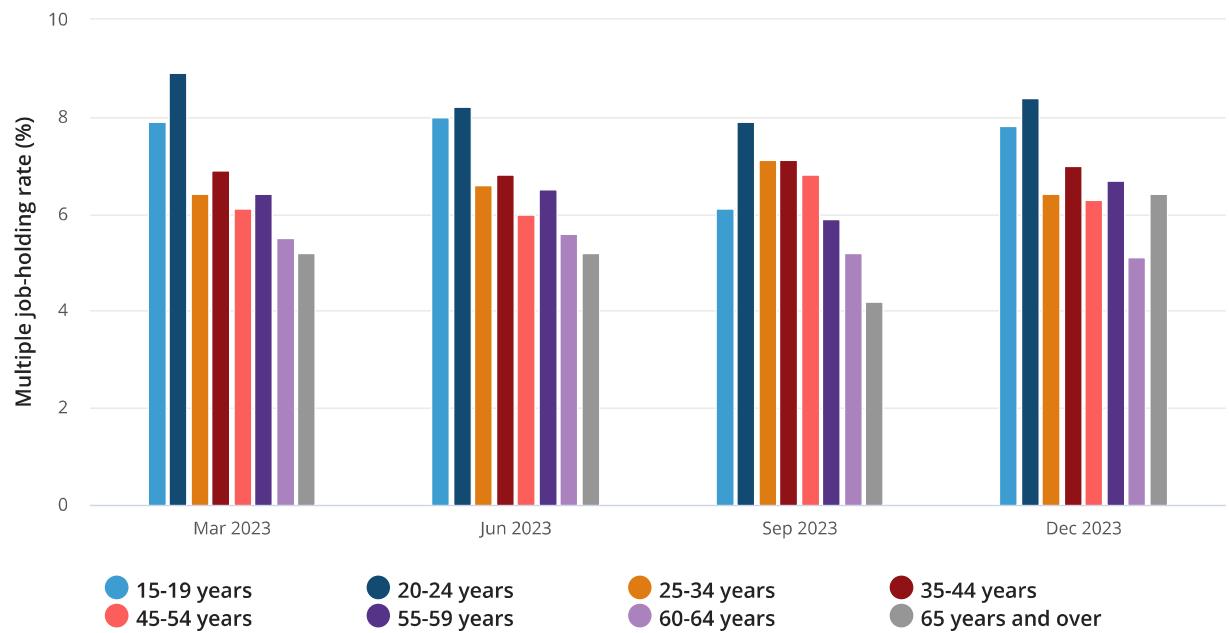
Source: [Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder-longitudinal-labour-force-australia>\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder-longitudinal-labour-force-australia) (original)

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Age

Employed people aged 20-24 were most likely to hold more than one job in December 2023 (8.4%). In contrast, 5.1% of employed people aged 60-64 were multiple job-holders.

Multiple job-holding rate by age group

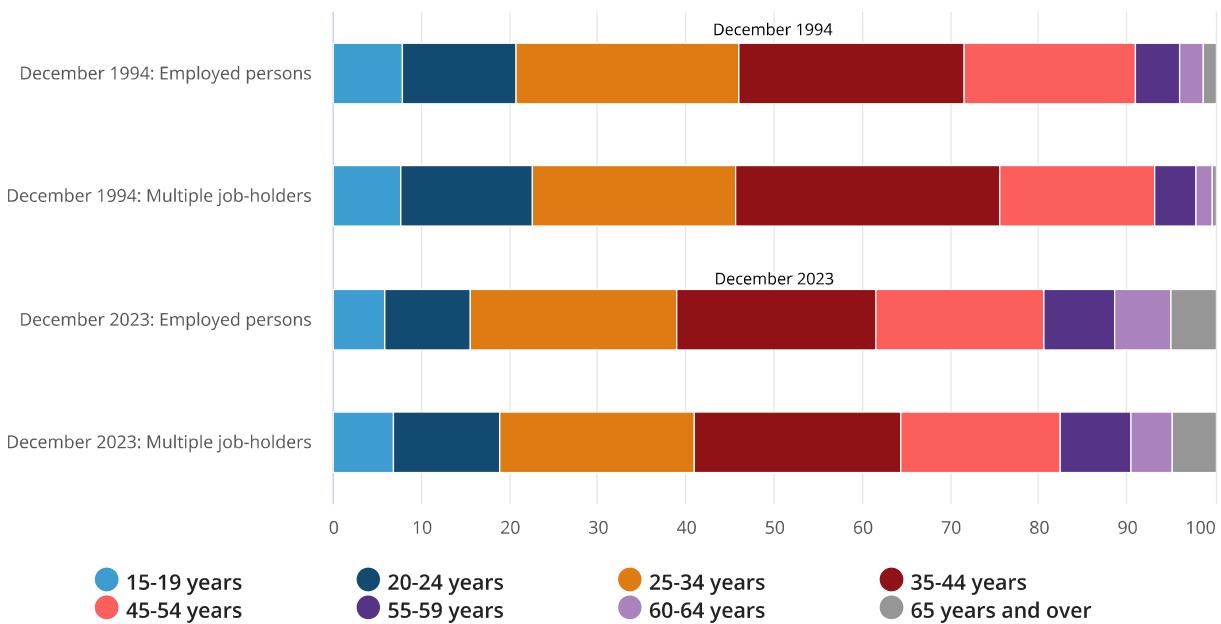


Estimates for smaller age groups are generally based on smaller counts and are subject to higher degrees of sampling variability.

Source: [Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](https://statistics.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia) (original)

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Age distribution of multiple job-holders, and employed persons



Estimates for smaller age groups are generally based on smaller counts and are subject to higher degrees of sampling variability.

Source: [Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](#) (original)

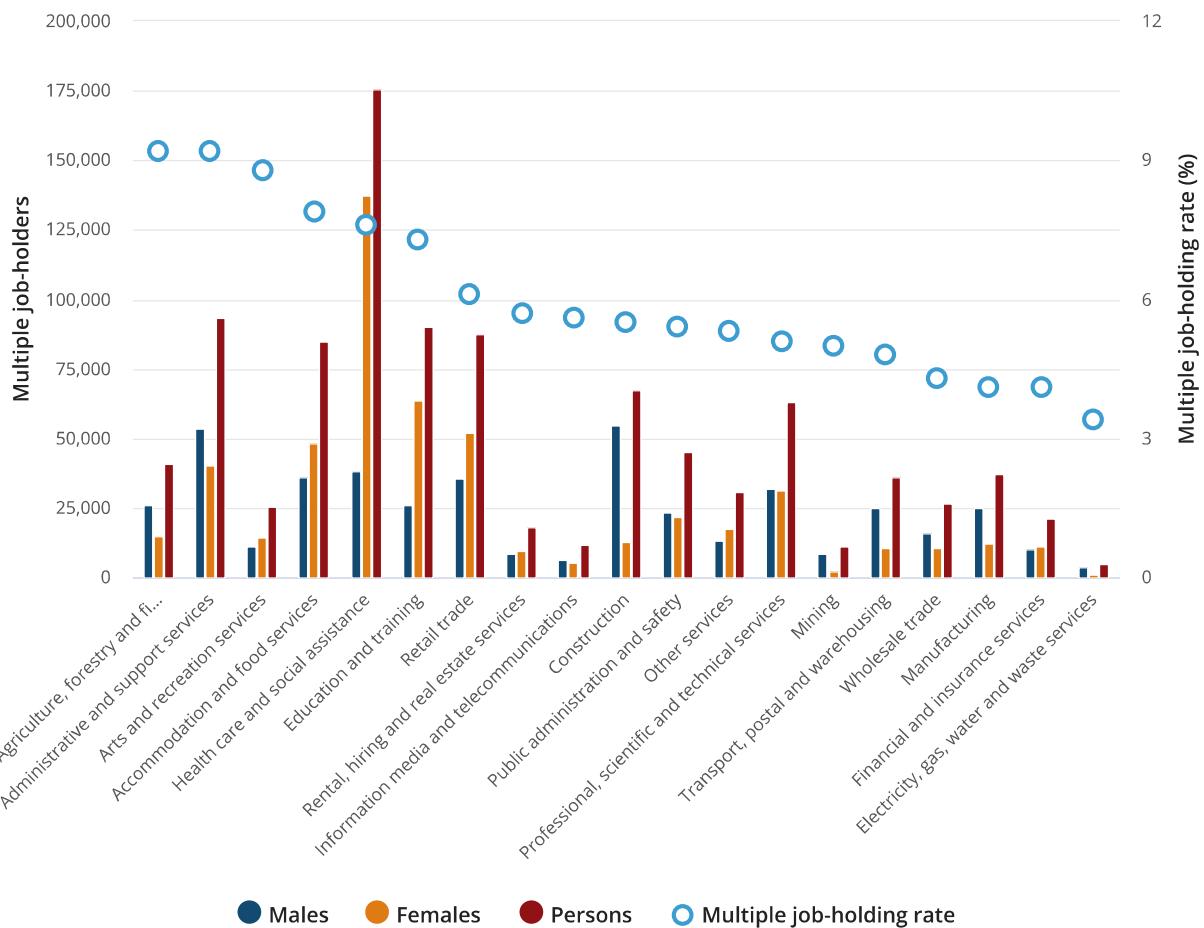
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Industry

People working in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing and Administrative and support services industries in their main job had the highest multiple job-holding rates in December 2023 (9.2% for both). Multiple job-holding was least common among people whose main job was in Electricity, gas, water and waste services.

It is important to note that some industries lend themselves to multiple job-holding. For example, some workers in Agriculture, forestry and fishing may work several seasonal jobs for different employers in addition to their main job; and some [labour hire workers \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/labour-hire-workers/latest-release\)](#) may work for a number of businesses in Administrative and support services.

Levels and rate of multiple job-holding, by sex, by industry



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Note: Multiple job-holding rate and levels are taken from the Labour Account. The number of male and female multiple job-holders by industry are derived from Jobs in Australia, and applied to the Labour Account level estimate.

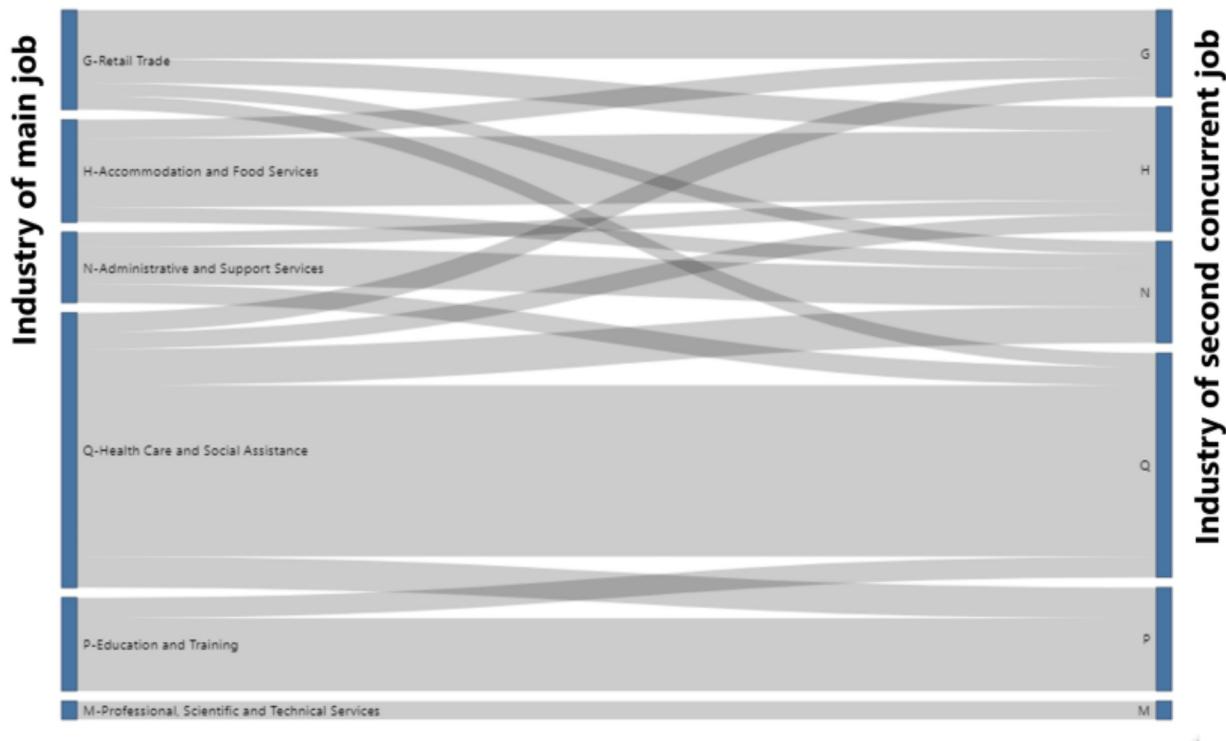
Source: [Labour Account Australia \(/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/dec-2023\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/dec-2023) (seasonally adjusted) and [Jobs in Australia 2020-21 \(<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year>\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year) (original)

The following diagrams show [Jobs in Australia \(<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year>\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year) data of the most common combinations of industries of male and female multiple job-holder's main and second concurrent job.

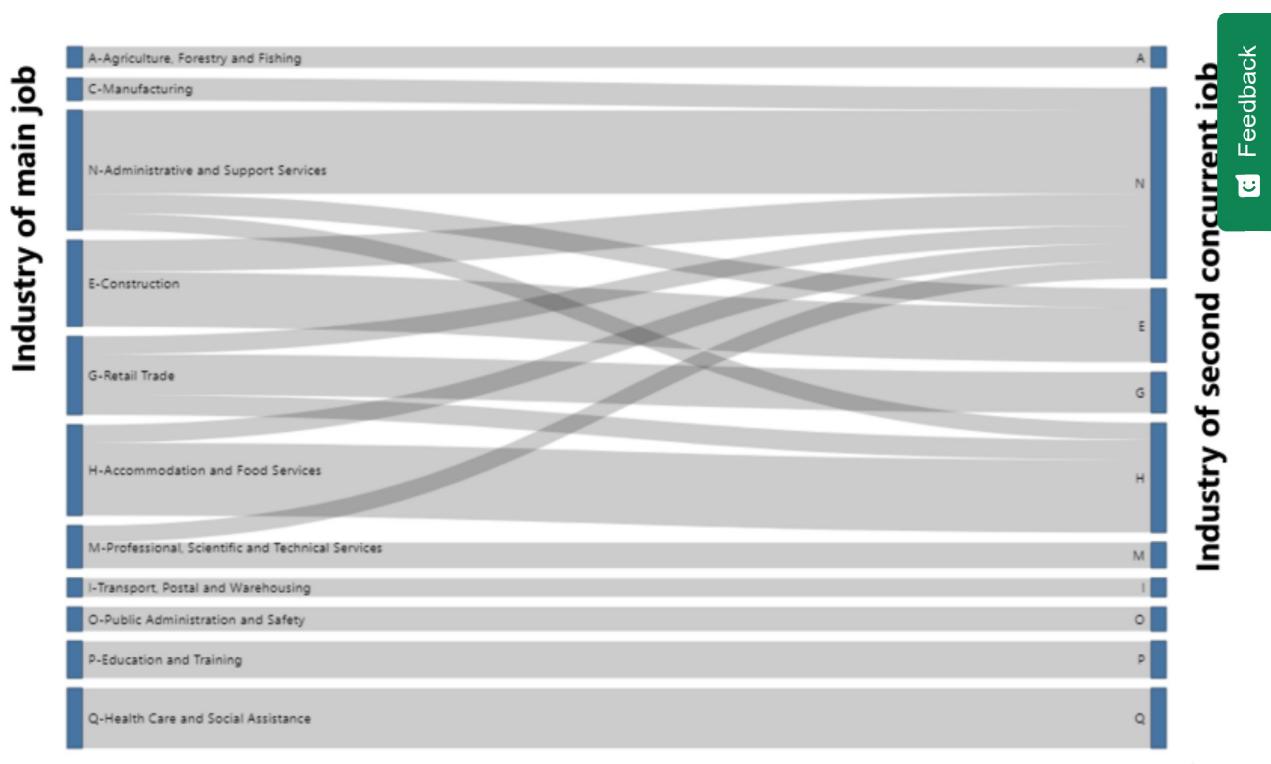
For example, most female multiple job-holders whose main job was in Health care and social assistance also had their second job in Health care and social assistance, but there were many women whose main job was in Health care and social assistance and their second job in either Administrative and support services, Education and training, Retail trade or Accommodation and food services.

The data can be found in Jobs in Australia [Table 4 \(<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year#data-downloads>\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/jobs/jobs-australia/2020-21-financial-year#data-downloads).

Industry of main and second job of female multiple job-holders, 2020-21



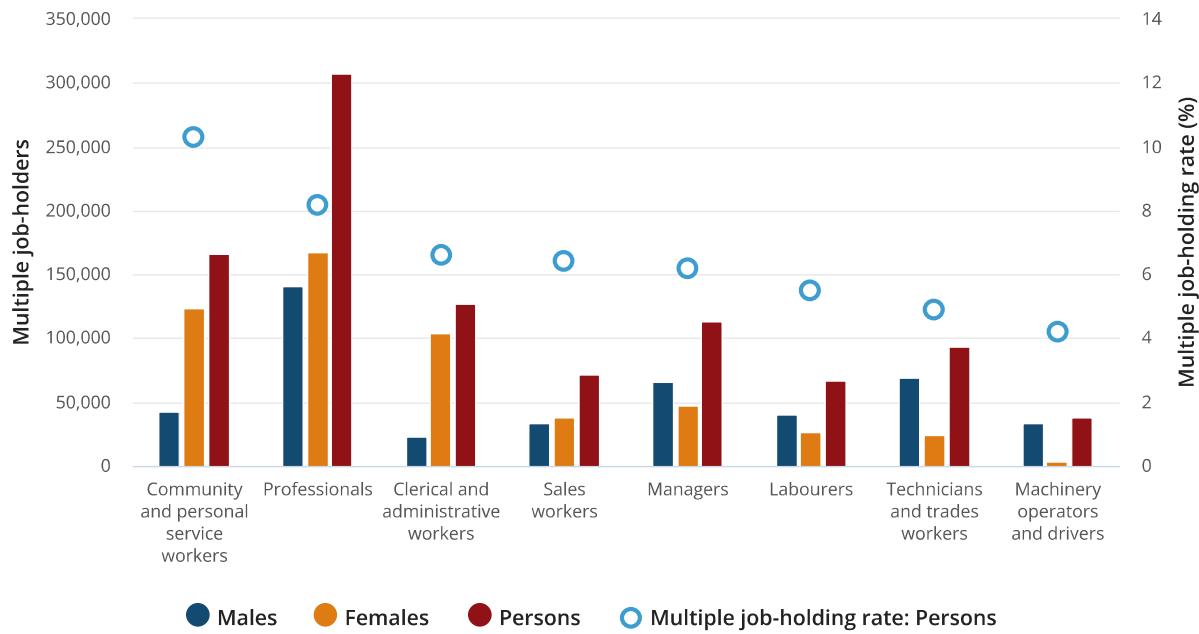
Industry of main and second job of male multiple job-holders, 2020-21



Occupation

In November 2023, 10.3% of all people who were a Community and personal service worker in their main job were multiple job-holders. Machinery operators and drivers were least likely to be a multiple job-holder (4.2%).

Levels and rate of multiple job-holding, by sex by occupation, November 2023



Note: The sum of occupations does not equal the headline estimate of multiple job-holders from the Labour Account as the number of multiple job-holders, by occupation is sourced directly from the Labour Force Survey. The Labour Account includes adjustments to account for populations which are out of scope for the Labour Force Survey, namely child workers, short-term non-residents and defence force personnel.

Source: [Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](https://statistics.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia) (original)

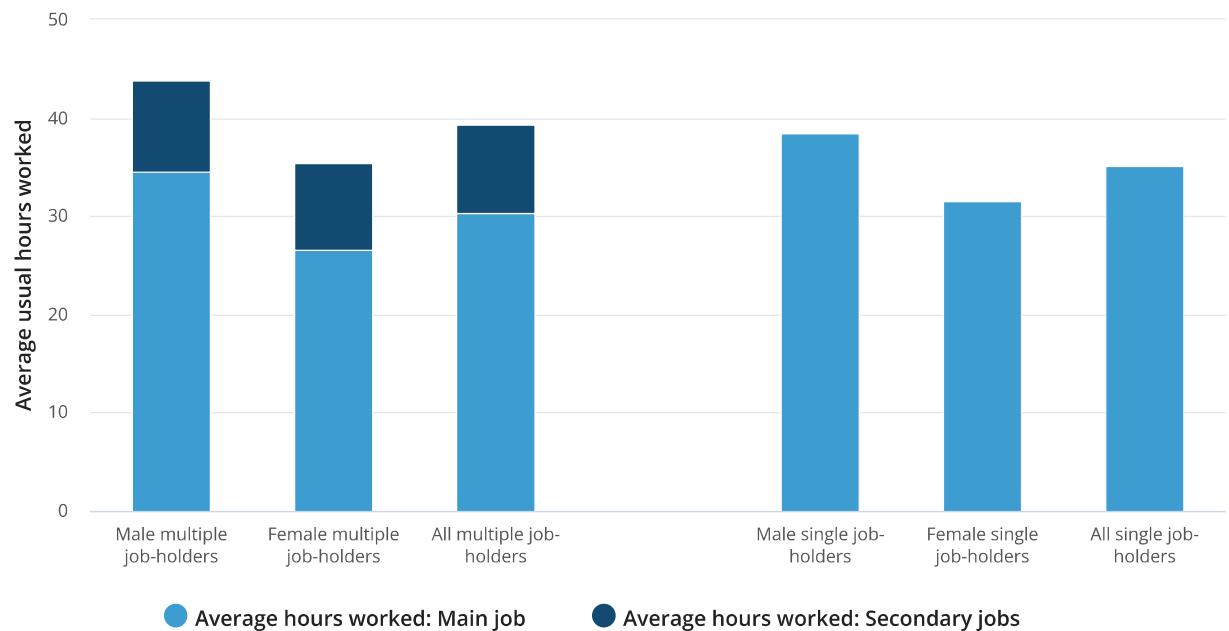


Hours worked

In December 2023:

- Multiple job-holders usually worked 30.3 hours, on average, in their main job, and 9.1 hours in their secondary job(s) - a total of 39.4 hours per week, on average.
- Single job-holders usually worked 35.1 hours per week, on average.

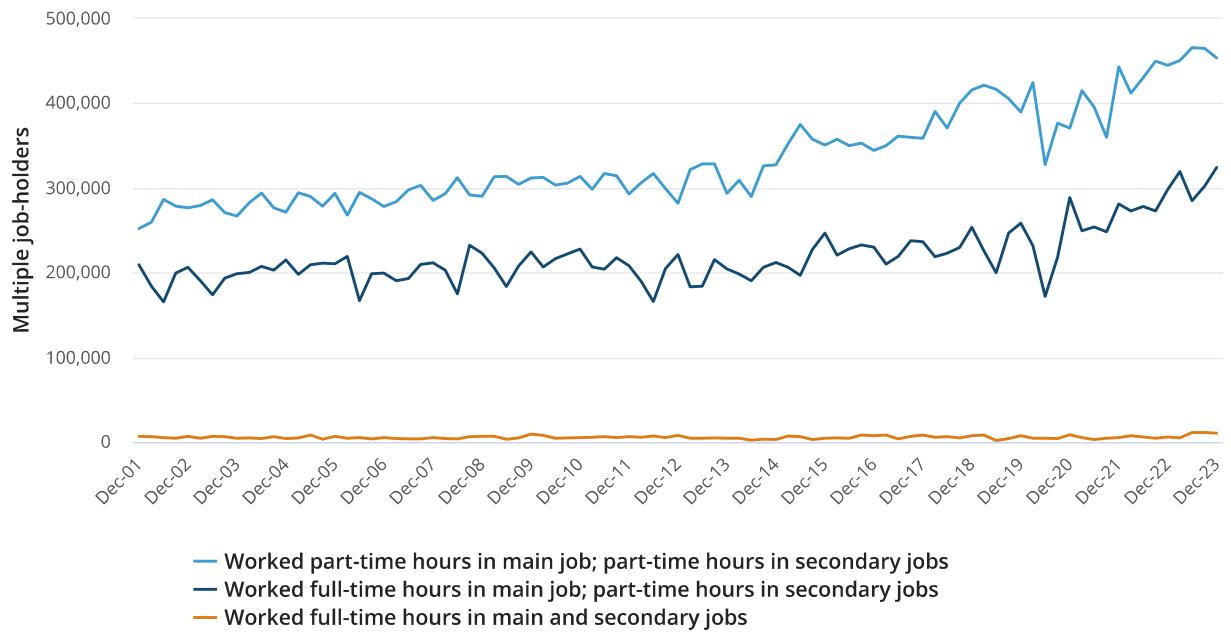
Average usual hours worked, December 2023



Source: [\(original\)](https://statistics.abs.gov.au/abs/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia_(original))

Multiple job-holders were most likely to work part-time hours (less than 35 hours per week) in both their main and secondary job(s), followed by a combination of full-time and part-time hours. There were a small number of people who had two full-time jobs.

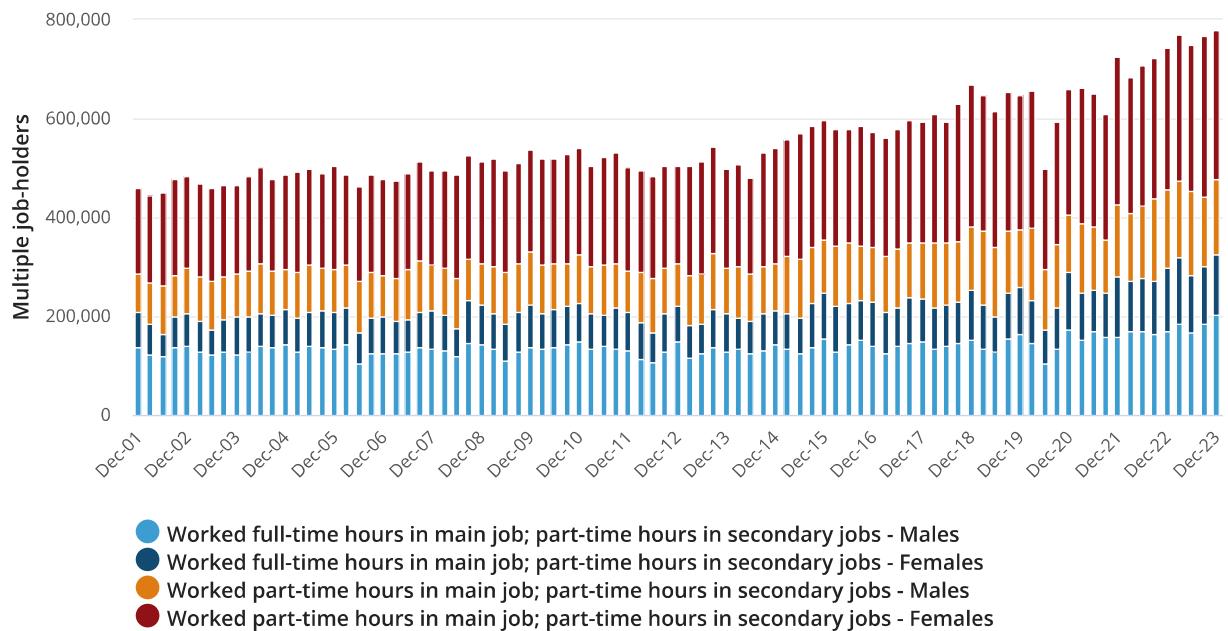
Multiple job-holders by actual full-time or part-time hours



Note: The full-time / part-time hours categories are based on hours actually worked in the reference week, so exclude employed people who were away from work.

Source: [Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](https://statistics.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia) (original)

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Note: The full-time / part-time hours categories are based on hours actually worked in the reference week, so exclude employed people who were away from work. The small number of people working two full-time jobs have been excluded from this graph.

Source: [Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](https://statistics.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia) (original)

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Geography

In December 2023, the multiple job-holding rate was higher in regional areas (7.4%) compared to capital cities (6.4%) at the Australia level. Overtime, growth in multiple job-holding rates in capital cities has led to a narrowing of the difference between rates in capital cities and the rest of Australia.

Multiple job-holding rate



Source: [\(original\)](https://statistics.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia_(original))

In December 2023, the multiple job-holding rate was highest in:

- Capital city: Greater Hobart (8.2%)
- Rest of state or territory: Victoria (9.2%)

In Queensland, Tasmania, and the Northern Territory, multiple job-holding was more prevalent in the greater capital city than the rest of state or territory.

Multiple job-holding rates by Greater Capital City Statistical Area, December 2023

Loading map...

Source: [Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia](#) (original)

Data downloads

Table 1: Multiple job-holders rates and levels

Rates and levels of multiple job-holders time series. Sourced from the Labour Accounts.

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[33.4 KB]

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Table 2: Multiple job-holders by age and sex

Time series of multiple job-holders by age and sex. Sourced from the Labour Force Survey

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[357.34 KB]

Table 3: Multiple job-holders income, by age, by sex and number of concurrent jobs

Median employment income of multiple job holders. Sourced from Jobs in Australia

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[82.19 KB]

Table 4: Multiple job-holders by industry, by sex, by median income

Multiple job-holders rates and levels by industry, by sex and by median income. Levels from the Labour Accounts are proportioned using Jobs in Australia sex data of industries. Median income data by industry sourced from Jobs in Australia

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[238.71 KB]

Table 5: Multiple job-holders by selected characteristics

Multiple job-holders and employed persons by occupation, average usual hours worked, by State, by Greater Capital City Statistical Area, and by educational qualifications. Sourced from the Labour Force Survey.

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[690.23 KB]

[All data downloads](#)

[!\[\]\(6b1c723bcfebfa33f2ec85bfc7f7714c_img.jpg\) Download ZIP](#)

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Methodology

[Multiple job-holders methodology, December 2023](#)

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